

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 20 and 22 to 33 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 7 are the independent claims. Claim 21 is cancelled without prejudice. Favorable reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants thank Examiner Tran for conducting a series of telephone conversations on Monday, February 25, 2008 and Thursday, February 28, 2008 with Applicants' undersigned representative to clear up some confusion with the examined claims. Applicants pointed out that the Office Action was based on an examination of a prior version of the claims. The Examiner acknowledged that the PTO did receive an amendment filed under PCT Article 34 amending the claims and specification and that the amended claims should have been examined instead. The Examiner asked Applicants to file this Office Action based on the amended claims. The Examiner also noted that since she is a new Examiner on this case she reserves the right to conduct an additional search. However, the Examiner indicated that if she does find new art that the next office action will be a non-final office action.

Applicants acknowledge the indication in the Office Action that claim 21 is allowable if rewritten in independent form including the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to include the limitation of claims 21. Applicants have also amended independent claim 7 to include the limitations of claim 21.

Applicants submit that all dependent claims now depend on allowable independent claims.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for withdrawing the prior art cited with regards to any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.


Applicants submit that the entire application is now in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

All correspondence should be directed to the address below. Applicants' attorney can be reached by telephone at (781) 401-9988 ext. 123.

No fee is believed to be due for this Response; however, if any fees are due, please apply such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0845 referencing Attorney Docket: WELLT-014PUS.

Respectfully submitted,

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